#### 160 BULLETIN of THE NEW YORK ACADEMY of MEDICINE

- III. Low basal metabolic rates obtained by low calorie diets in coronary artery disease, A. M. Master, H. L. Jaffe, S. Dack.
- IV. Effect of suprarenal cortical hormone on natural resistance of pituitarectomized rats, D. Perla.
- V. Effect of iodine and desiccated thyroid on anterior pituitary of goitrous and thyroidectomized rabbits, D. Marine, S. H. Rosen, C. Spark.
- VI. Passage of human spinal cords containing virus of poliomyelitis to monkeys, M. Brodie.
- VII. High temperature liver death syndrome, J. E. Sutton, Jr. (introduced by J. E. Sweet).
- VIII. A new method of determining plasma fibrin, S. Rosenfeld, A. S. Wiener (introduced by B. Kramer).

### MEMBERS ELECTED

# February 7, 1935

| Harold Lindsay Amoss     | 125 Field Pt. Rd., Greenwich          |
|--------------------------|---------------------------------------|
|                          | 860 Park Avenue                       |
|                          | 660 Park Avenue                       |
| Frederick W. Birkman     | 115 East 61 Street                    |
|                          |                                       |
|                          | 159 East 49 Street                    |
| Alexander J. Chilko      | . New Rochelle Hospital, New Rochelle |
| Agnes Conrad             | 1215 Fifth Avenue                     |
| Irving Alexander Frisch  | 110 East 90 Street                    |
| Burke C. Hamilton        |                                       |
| Clarence P. Howley       | 59 West 12 Street                     |
| M. Beckett Howorth       | 125 East 74 Street                    |
| Harry Vincent Judge      |                                       |
| Victor Wesley Logan      |                                       |
|                          | 444 East 66 Street                    |
| Gordon David Oppenheimer | 941 Park Avenue                       |
|                          | 145 West 88 Street                    |
| Herbert Pollack          | 73 East 90 Street                     |

# OBITUARY

## WILLIAM CHITTENDEN LUSK\*

#### 1868 - 1934

William Chittenden Lusk was born in Guilford, Connecticut, July 23, 1868, and died of Parkinsons's disease in New York City on October 24th, 1934. He was the son of

<sup>\*</sup> Read before the Society of Alumni of Bellevue Hospital December 5, 1934.

William Thompson Lusk, eminent obstetrician, and brother of Graham Lusk, eminent scientist.

Doctor Lusk was Consulting Surgeon to Bellevue Hospital, St. Vincent's Hospital and the Manhattan State Hospital, a member of the Society of Alumni of Bellevue Hospital, a Life Member and Founder of the American College of Surgeons, Fellow of the New York Academy of Medicine, member of the American Medical Association, of the Medical Societies of the State and County of New York, and of the New York Surgical Society.

Doctor Lusk's early years were spent at the home of his grandfather, Simeon Baldwin Chittenden, in Guilford, Connecticut, where he attended the Guilford High School. He then went to the Polytechnic Institute of Brooklyn. When he had finished there, he traveled for a year in Europe. In 1886, he entered Yale, where he had a notable career, and was graduated in 1890 with the degree of A.B. That fall he entered Bellevue Hospital Medical College and graduated in 1893 at the head of his class. He served as intern on the Third Surgical Division of Bellevue Hospital from 1893-1895. After completing his service in Bellevue Hospital. he immediately engaged in private practice, hospital work. and teaching in his Alma Mater. His first appointment in the College was as Assistant Demonstrator of Anatomy: later he became Assistant to the Chair of Surgery. In 1898 when Bellevue Hospital Medical College and the University Medical College were consolidated he was appointed Lecturer on Anatomy and Demonstrator of Operative Surgery, and in 1903 Professor of Clinical Surgery. After his disease began Doctor Lusk found teaching burdensome and resigned his college connections. In 1916, the College honored him by reappointment as Professor of Clinical Surgery and, again in 1933, as Professor Emeritus of Clinical In 1932 the Alumni Federation presented Doctor Lusk with the medallion of the New York University Meritorious Service Award.

Doctor Lusk's hospital affiliations at various periods in his career were: Visiting Surgeon to the Almshouse and Workhouse hospitals, Assistant Visiting Surgeon to the Third Surgical Division of Bellevue Hospital, Assistant Visiting Surgeon to St. Vincent's Hospital; in 1912 he was transferred to the Fourth Surgical Division of Bellevue Hospital as Assistant Visiting Surgeon; in 1922 he was promoted to Visiting Surgeon and on his resignation from that Division in 1927 he was appointed Consulting Surgeon.

A former student and intern recalls his association with Doctor Lusk in this wise: Though he asked a good deal of us, he never spared himself. Often he would spend an entire evening at the College preparing for his lecture next day. In the hospital he devoted his entire time to the service and his students. He was there night and day. No one who served under him will ever forget his unfailing courtesy, his kindness, and his appreciation of good work.

Doctor Lusk was endowed with that rare combination of scientific imagination and infinite capacity for detail. Had the Fates not decreed otherwise, he would have become a leading investigator of surgical problems. In spite of his affliction, his bibliography comprises some 25 titles. His first important paper entitled "Remarks on a Frozen Section of The First Stage of Labor" appeared in the British Medical Journal in 1898. Then followed, among others: Excision of the Rectum for Cancer; J. Surg. Gyn. & Obstet., 1908, vii, pp. 113-226; The Anatomy of Spinal Puncture; Ann. Surg., 1911, LIV, 449. A Thoracic Aneurism Treated with Gold Wire and Galvanism; Ann. Surg., 1912, LV, 789.

When the War came Doctor Lusk's disease had progressed so far that active service was out of the question, but, determined to "do his bit," he devoted himself to an intensive study of the value of chinosol as a disinfectant and healing agent. This problem held his interest throughout the remainder of his life.

Early in life, Doctor Lusk developed many interests outside of his profession. He had an innate love of horses and the great outdoors, especially mountains. As long as his health permitted, he found recreation on the bridlepaths of the Park. His camera and fishing rod were his constant companions on his vacations.

Doctor Lusk was intensely social and delighted to entertain his friends. Former members of his house staff will recall the Christmas dinners he sent down to them in the hospital. Other friends cherish the memory of delightful evenings spent in his home. But his kindness and courtesy and generosity were not reserved for his intimates, they reached all with whom he was brought in contact. During the funeral services held in his late home an old man waited in the street, with bowed head, until the body of his friend had started on its last journey.

Tragic as was the illness that cut him off from professional work at the time of his greatest usefulness and promise, and hard as it is to understand, or become reconciled to, such a dispensation, yet that very illness brought fulfilment of life and character. He dedicated his life to his fellow-men and to all that was finest and best in his profession, adding full measure to the splendid traditions of his family.

WARREN COLEMAN. ARTHUR M. WRIGHT.